

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 GSA-02 H-01 L-03
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O 192141Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EGEN, BL, ITC

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON TIN

REF: LA PAZ 3891, STATE 118204

1. AS NOTED IN REF B, ON MAY 3 THE ADMINISTRATION SUBMITTED AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL TO AUTHORIZE UP TO 60 MILLION DOLS TO THE PRESIDENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING THE TIN TO BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ITC BUFFER STOCK. THE AMENDMENT WAS APPROVED BY THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON MAY 4 AND BY THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON MAY 10.

2. CONGRESSMAN BENNETT'S ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER AND STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MATERIALS MET ON MONDAY MAY 15 TO HEAR AND MARK-UP THE ADMINISTRATION'S TIN CONTRIBUTION BILL (H.R. 9486). THE SUBCOMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY
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APPROVED H.R. 9486, AND ADDED ONE AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE A 30,000 TON TIN DISPOSAL (SUBMITTED BY CONGRESSMAN MOLLOHAN WHO HAS SPONSORED OTHER SIMILAR TIN DISPOSAL LEGISLATION) AND ANOTHER AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH THE BENNETT REVOLVING FUND.
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3. THE MOLLOHAN AMENDMENT INCLUDES LANGUAGE SIMILAR TO

THAT IN THE STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MATERIALS STOCK PILING ACT SPECIFYING THAT THE PLAN AND DATE OF DISPOSITION BE FIXED WITH DUE REGARD TO THE PROTECTION OF THE U.S. AGAINST AVOIDABLE LOSS AND THE PROTECTION OF PRODUCERS, PROCESSORS AND CONSUMERS AGAINST AVOIDABLE DISRUPTION.

4. ADDITIONALLY, THE HOUSE BANKING, FINANCE AND URBAN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC STABILIZATION, WHICH HELD HEARINGS ON THE TIN CONTRIBUTION ON MAY 11, APPROVED THE BILL ON MAY 17 WITH AN AMENDMENT STIPULATING THAT THE CONTRIBUTION, QUOTE SHALL NOT PREVENT UNILATERAL DISPOSALS OF TIN BY THE U.S. FROM THE NATIONAL STOCKPILE. UNQUOTE.

5. HEARINGS BY THE FULL COMMITTEES--ARMED SERVICES AND BANKING, FINANCE AND URBAN AFFAIRS--HAS NOT BEEN SCHEDULED BUT IS EXPECTED NEXT WEEK. ACCORDING TO STAFFERS ON THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (HIRC), THE HIRC WILL SUBMIT THE TIN CONTRIBUTION BILL, INCLUDING THE ABOVE MENTIONED AMENDMENTS (IF THEY SURVIVE IN THE FULL COMMITTEES), TO THE FULL HOUSE IN EARLY JUNE.

6. THERE HAS BEEN NO RECENT ACTION BY SENATOR HART'S ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND STOCKPILES, ALTHOUGH SUBCOMMITTEE STAFFERS HAVE ADVISED US THAT THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL COMPLETE MARK-UP OF ITS COMMODITY BILL IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND WILL INCLUDE AUTHORIZATION FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A, QUOTE SUBSTANTIAL UNQUOTE, TIN DISPOSAL, PROBABLY ON THE ORDER OF 25-30,000 TONS. VANCE

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